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UNCLAS KINGSTON 001250

SIPDIS

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SUBJECT: GOJ DISAGREES ON CHR REFORM SESSION

REF: STATE 082967

On May 6, poloff met with Angella Brown, Deputy Director, International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade (MFAFT), to deliver reftel talking points. Brown disagreed that a working group in Geneva would be redundant and inappropriate. She argued that, since the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) sits in Geneva, it would not be unreasonable to discuss CHR reform there. Brown added that a discussion in New York of broader UN reforms would quickly get bogged down in the vast number of issues being considered, and that a more focused discussion on the human rights body could take place in Geneva. As a result, she anticipated that members would be more likely to reach their goal -- consensus on reform -- in Geneva. In addition, Brown said that the costs of such a meeting would likely not be particularly high, since most members are already represented in Geneva at the WTO.

TIGHE